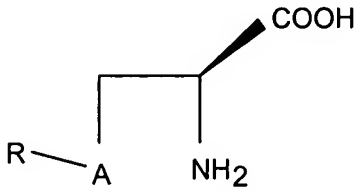
IN THE CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) A prodrug of the formula:

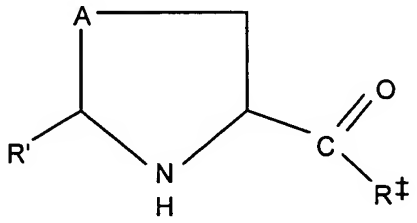


where A is selenium, and R is a mono- di- or oligo- saccharide.

2. (currently amended) A prodrug of claim 1 wherein R is ~~derived from~~ ribose, galactose, glucose, or mannose.

Claims 3-8 (cancelled)

9. (previously presented) A prodrug of the formula:



where A is selenium, and

R' is a sugar having the formula $(CHOH)_nCH_2OH$, where n is 1 to 5, or

R' is an alkyl or aryl group, or

R' is =O, and

$R^‡$ is an alkoxy, or an amine group.

10. (original) A prodrug as in Claim 9 wherein $R^‡$ is $-OR^1$ where R^1 is ethyl, or methyl.

11. (original) A prodrug as in Claim 9 wherein R' is methyl, ethyl, benzyl, carboxyl, or phenyl.

12. (original) A prodrug as in Claim 9 wherein $R^{\ddagger}$ is $-NR^{\dagger}_2$, wherein the $R^{\dagger}$ groups are the same or different and are hydrogen or alkyl.

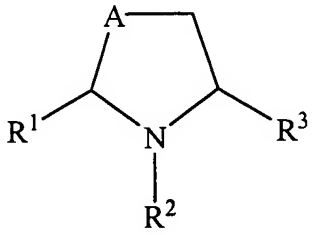
13. (original) A prodrug as in Claim 11 wherein at least one $R^{\dagger}$ is methyl.

Claims 14 and 15 (cancelled)

16. (currently amended) A method for reducing toxicity of a substance ~~the toxic insult~~ in a mammal, comprising administering the prodrug of claim 1 to the mammal.

17. (previously presented) A method for (1) reducing unwanted side effects of chemo- or radiotherapy of cancer, (2) improving cardiovascular function, (3) preventing mutagenesis, (4) preventing the initiation and/or progression of cancer, (5) reducing toxic consequences of planned or unplanned radiation or chemical exposures, (6) slowing the aging process, or (7) preventing cataract formation in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal the prodrug of claim 1.

18. (currently amended) A method for reducing toxicity of a substance ~~the toxic insult~~ in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a prodrug having the formula



wherein

(1) A is selenium,

R^1 is a sugar having the formula $(CHOH)_nCH_2OH$, where n is 1 to 5, or R^1 is an alkyl or aryl group, or R^1 is =O,

R^2 is $CH_2CH_2CH_2N(R^4)_2$, wherein R^4 may be the same or different and may be

hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, or carboxy; and

R^3 is hydrogen;

(2) A is selenium,

R^1 is a sugar having the formula $(CHOH)_nCH_2OH$, where n is 1 to 5, or R^1 is an alkyl or aryl group, or R^1 is =O,

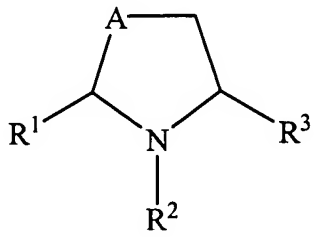
R^2 is hydrogen, R^3 is COR^5, wherein R^5 is an alkoxy, or an amine group; or

(3) A is selenium,

R^1 is a sugar having the formula $(CHOH)_nCH_2OH$, where n is 1 to 5, or R^1 is an alkyl or aryl group, or R^1 is =O,

R^2 is hydrogen, and R^3 is hydrogen or COOH.

19. (previously presented) A method for (1) reducing unwanted side effects of chemo- or radiotherapy of cancer, (2) improving cardiovascular function, (3) preventing mutagenesis, (4) preventing the initiation and/or progression of cancer, (5) reducing toxic consequences of planned or unplanned radiation or chemical exposures, (6) slowing the aging process, or (7) preventing cataract formation in a mammal comprising administering the mammal a prodrug having the formula



wherein

(1) A is selenium,

R^1 is a sugar having the formula $(CHOH)_nCH_2OH$, where n is 1 to 5, or R^1 is an

alkyl or aryl group, or R^1 is =O,

R^2 is $CH_2CH_2CH_2N(R^4)_2$, wherein R^4 may be the same or different and may be hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, or carboxy; and

R^3 is hydrogen;

(2) A is selenium,

R^1 is a sugar having the formula $(CHOH)_nCH_2OH$, where n is 1 to 5, or R^1 is an alkyl or aryl group, or R^1 is =O,

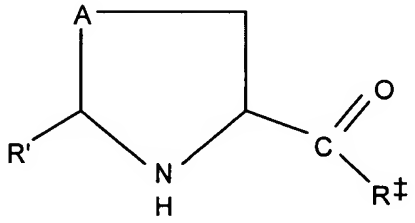
R^2 is hydrogen, R^3 is COR^5, wherein R^5 is an alkoxy, or an amine group; or

(3) A is selenium,

R^1 is a sugar having the formula $(CHOH)_nCH_2OH$, where n is 1 to 5, or R^1 is an alkyl or aryl group, or R^1 is =O,

R^2 is hydrogen, and R^3 is hydrogen or COOH.

20. (previously presented) A prodrug of the formula



where A is sulfur or selenium, and

R' is an alkyl or aryl group, or

R' is =O, and

$R^‡$ is an alkoxy, or an amine group.